

to present it to the American people and we have done the best we could to prepare. And I have enormous confidence in the work that others have done. I think they have done the best they could.

We don't live in a risk-free world, and there are risks associated with anything we did or didn't do. But I think we're doing the right thing, and I think we have the right people doing the right thing. That's all I could ever ask for. And I've made the decision, so if it doesn't go right, I'm responsible.

**Q.** Secretary Christopher says that he expects more public support and more support on the Hill now, Mr. President. Do you expect to get fairly strong support in Congress now?

**The President.** I don't know; I can't answer that. I hope so. But he may know more about it than I do. All I can tell you is I've done the very best I could, and I hope they'll be supportive for it. I'm encouraged by the indications that the American people are more supportive. My sense is that the important things to a lot of Americans about last night were, first of all, I think, more and more are learning about the human rights abuses and how that reinforces the arguments we made about immigration and democracy. But I think most of the people are focused on that.

But the two things I think that a lot of Americans got last night from an informational point of view were, one, the extraordinary efforts we have made in the diplomatic area and the patience we've shown and the rebuffs we've received over a long period of time. And two, I think a lot of Americans had forgotten about the Governors Island Agreement and that it was broken. And most Americans think when you make a deal with this country, you ought to keep it. And so I feel—all I can tell you is I feel good about it.

**Q.** Why did you wait so long to make your case to the American people?

**The President.** Well, I've been talking about this all along, you know. I waited so long to make an Oval Office address because you can only make—I mean, it's only appropriate to make one Oval Office address on a subject like this. And we have done the best we could. We exhausted all other alter-

natives. I thought this was the right time. I did the best I could with it.

**Adm. Paul Miller.** Mr. President, before you leave, can I just report one thing to you? Yesterday I was at Fort Drum up in New York; that's the 10th Mountain. And one of the commanders mentioned that a battalion of troops are going to be involved. There was 50-some that could leave the army before the projected time was up, and 21 of them said, "We want to stay."

So, that shows support from the uniformed side, from the practitioner, the youngster. They want to be there, and that's what the call to duty was. I just wanted to mention that.

**The President.** Thank you very much. Two young men—when we were in Berlin a few months ago and cased the colors of the Berlin Brigade and I met with some of the young soldiers there, two of them asked me to please delay any action in Haiti until they got home so they could go. That's very rewarding. Thank you, sir.

Goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:02 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Adm. Paul D. Miller, Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Proclamation 6720—Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, 1994

September 16, 1994

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

The Constitution of the United States of America is as forceful and dynamic today as it was on September 17, 1787, the day it was signed by our Nation's Founders. This hallowed document has endured, and, indeed, has grown stronger over the 207 years since its adoption. Today, more than ever, the Constitution stands as a beacon for all who are dedicated to the principles of government by and for the people.

The Constitution provides a framework of both constancy and flexibility in a Nation that

is forever striving to change for the better. But the Constitution is more than simply the blueprint of our system of government, more too than the guardian of our most sacred rights. It is a challenge to every American. For it is only through the daily actions of each one of us that the ideals it promises are fulfilled.

The Founders of our Nation pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their honor. They did not take their liberty or their new citizenship as Americans for granted. Neither did the countless courageous men and women who have sacrificed their lives to defend that Constitution since then. Nor have the millions of immigrants throughout our history who have braved daunting obstacles to reach the welcoming freedom of our shores. Following in our ancestors' great tradition of responsibility, Americans retain a solemn duty and a profound obligation to ensure that the world's boldest experiment in self-government continues to thrive and prosper.

Each of us has the right and the responsibility to be educated and informed, to vote for those who represent us, and to participate at every level of government. This week, let us give thanks for the freedoms we cherish and enjoy. Let us pause in our busy lives to learn more about and to appreciate our roles as American citizens. While our Constitution may set forth rights and liberties, only our citizens can maintain and guarantee them. Ours has never been an easy task, but it is one in which we will surely continue to succeed.

In recognition of the paramount importance of the Constitution to our Nation, and of all who, by birth or by naturalization, have attained the status of United States citizenship, the Congress by joint resolution on February 29, 1952 (36 U.S.C. section 153), designated September 17 as Citizenship Day, and by joint resolution of August 2, 1956 (36 U.S.C. section 159), requested the President to proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as Constitution Week.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 17, 1994, as "Citizenship Day," and the week beginning September 17 through September 23, 1994,

as "Constitution Week." I call upon Federal, State, and local officials, as well as leaders of civic, educational, and religious organizations, to conduct meaningful ceremonies and programs in their schools, churches, and other community gathering places to foster a better understanding of the Constitution and of the rights and duties of citizenship.

I further call upon the officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on September 17, 1994, in honor of Citizenship Day.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:09 a.m., September 19, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 20.

## **Proclamation 6721—National Farm Safety and Health Week, 1994**

*September 16, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

America has long been known as the land of plenty. Our Nation's dedicated farmers, ranchers, and workers throughout the agricultural sector provide abundant and affordable food and fiber that feed and clothe the world. Their tremendous productivity is one of our country's greatest assets. To recognize and support the citizens who help to bring forth that extraordinary bounty, National Farm Safety and Health Week promotes the protection and well-being of America's agricultural providers.

Our country has made tremendous advances in improving safety and efficiency in agriculture over the years. But much remains to be done. Long hours, adverse weather conditions, natural disasters, human negligence, and uncertain market prices all affect